

Attorney Docket No.: 041501-5423 Application No.: 09/843,781

Page 2

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered and considered prior to examination on the merits.

Applicants respectfully provide the amendments to correct informalities and/or typographical errors. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments do not relate to any issue of patentability and do not narrow the intended scope of the claims. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that the intended scope of the claims was clear and that the amendments do not introduce new matter. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants do not intend to relinquish any subject matter by these amendments.

Conclusion

The foregoing amendments are being made to place the application in condition for examination. A favorable action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version showing the changes made by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under

Attorney Docket No.: 041501-5423 Application No.: 09/843,781

Page 3

37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bv:

Robert J. Goodell Reg. No. 41,040

Dated: May 3, 2002

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Attorney Docket No.: 041501-5423 Application No.: 09/843,781

Page 4

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 16 as follows:

16. (Amended) The [method] repair structure according to claim [1] 9, wherein the repair pattern is formed of metal.